Ghanauli-Baddi railway line

3770. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ghanauli-Baddi railway line has been approved by Government and the scheme could not be taken up due to the problem of land acquisition in the UT of Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has received any proposal to provide a link from Ghanauli to Baddi from the existing Sirhind-Nangal railway line;

(d) if so, whether Government proposes to undertake technical feasibility and financial viability survey; and

(e) if so, by when this survey is likely to be completed and the work on Ghanauli-Baddi railway line would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, problem of land acquisition in the Union Territory of Chandigarh has been faced in the Chandigarh-Baddi new line project.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Ghanauli-Baddi new line survey has been completed and the survey report is under preparation. Since Ghanauli-Baddi new line project has not been sanctioned, no time frame for completion of the same can be given at this stage.

Nadikudi-Bibinagar rail line

3771. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a new line between Nadikudi and Bibinagar in Andhra Pradesh was laid about 20 years ago thereby shortening the distance between Chennai and Hyderabad by about 70 kms. linking vital installations;

(b) whether because of single line there is scope for running about 7 to 10 pairs of trains;

(c) whether this is causing lot of inconvenience and avoidable strain to travelling public and increasing traffic provided track consisting length of 280 kms. is electrified and doubling work taken up; and

(d) if so, whether long felt need of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu would be fulfilled and what are the proposals on hand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A survey for doubling of track between Bibinagar-Nallapadu covering Bibinagar-Nadikudi section has been included in Budget 2009-10. The work can be taken after it is sanctioned.